

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05

EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04

SIL-01 OMB-01 /077 W

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 1306

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, OVIP, EAID, ECRE, KU

SUBJECT: U.S. COOPERATION IN KUWAIT'S AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMS

REF: (A) KUWAIT 0385 (B) KUWAIT 0533 (C) KUWAIT 0925 (D) STATE 15747

1. IN RECENT MONTHS IT HAS BECOME APPARENT KUWAIT INTENDS TO INCREASE RAPIDLY ITS EXPENDITURES FOR DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT. PROJECTS WILL BE UNDERTAKEN LARGELY BY JOINT-SECTOR COMPANIES AND A NUMBER OF GOK MINISTRIES. WELL OVER ONE BILLION DOLLARS HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FOR GOK PROJECTS DURING THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING APRIL 1 AND BILLIONS MORE WILL BE EXPENDED IN THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS.

2. I INTEND TO RAISE WITH APPROPRIATE MINISTERS OUR STRONG AND CONTINUING INTEREST IN OBTAINING SATISFACTORY RESPONSES FROM U.S. FIRMS TO TENDER REQUESTS FOR SIGNIFICANT KUWAIT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. AT THE SAME TIME I WILL ASK A FAIR SHAKE FOR U.S. FIRMS DURING TOUGH COMPETITIVE TENDERING USUALLY PRACTICED HERE.

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3. FOR EXAMPLE, I WILL DISCUSS WITH THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC

WORKS THAT MANY MAJOR PROJECTS HIS MINISTRY IS HANDLING, INCLUDING THE PROPOSED "OLYMPIC STADIUM" COMPLEX (SEE REFS B AND C). I HOPE TO INTEREST HIM AND POSSIBLY OTHER MINISTERS IN SENDING DELEGATIONS TO THE U.S. TO VISIT SITES (SUCH AS THE AIR-CONDITIONED HOUSTON ASTRODOME) RELEVANT TO KUWAIT'S NEEDS, INCOME AND INTERESTS. I WILL ALSO EXPLORE KUWAITI DESIRES FOR EXCHANGES WITH U.S.G. AGENCIES OR PRIVATE FIRMS. FOR THESE MEETINGS I NEED TO KNOW WHAT TYPES OF ASSISTANCE STATE AND COMMERCE ARE PREPARED TO OFFER MPW OFFICIALS OR OTHERS WISHING TO VISIT THE U.S. TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TECHNOLOGY AND KNOW-HOW WE HAVE TO OFFER.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE FURNISH SOON A GENERAL OUTLINE OF WHAT WE CAN REASONABLY OFFER KUWAIT MINISTRIES WHICH EXPRESS INTEREST IN SENDING TEAMS TO U.S. OR OTHERWISE SEEK TO DRAW ON THE U.S. EXPERIENCE. I WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE TO BE INFORMED OF THE MECHANICS FOR ARRANGING A VISIT TO THE HOUSTON ASTRODOME. I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF PLANS FOR PROPOSED DESALINATION FACT-FINDING GROUP TO VISIT AREA. (WHILE KUWAIT HAS OPTED FOR MULTI-STAGE FLASH UNITS NOT MADE IN US, MEW MINISTER ABDALLA AL-GHANEM IS INNOVATOR AND COULD SWITCH IF COGENT REASONS PRESENTED.)

5. I WOULD WELCOME ANY SUGGESTIONS STATE OR COMMERCE MAY HAVE ON WAYS WE CAN FURTHER U.S. PARTICIPATION IN KUWAIT'S AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.
STOLTZFUS

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